

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: John S. HENDRICKS

Serial No: New Application Art Unit: Unknown

Filed: September 28, 2001 Examiner: Unknown

Title: ELECTRONIC BOOK SELECTION AND DELIVERY SYSTEM HAVING  
PURCHASE AND ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT FEATURES (Amended)  
This is a divisional application of Serial No. 09/237,825, filed on January 27,  
1999.

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**In the Title**

Please change the title to read: "ELECTRONIC BOOK SELECTION AND DELIVERY  
SYSTEM HAVING PURCHASE AND ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT FEATURES".

**In the Specification**

On page 1, lines 3-6, please change the paragraph to read as follows:

This application is a division of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/237,825, filed  
January 27, 1999, which is a division of Serial No. 08/336,247, filed November 7, 1994, now  
U.S. Patent No. 5,986,690, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application Serial No.  
08/160,194, filed December 9, 1993, all of which are incorporated herein by reference as if fully  
set forth.

**In the Claims**

Please cancel claims 1-9 and add new claims 10-29 as follows.

10. A method for tracking purchases of electronic books, comprising:
- storing identifications of a plurality of electronic books for display on a viewer;
  - associating each of the electronic books with a source;
  - providing the electronic books for purchase by subscribers;
  - recording an indication of purchases of the electronic books; and
  - associating an amount of each purchase with the source for the corresponding electronic book.
11. The method of claim 10 wherein the associating step includes associating the amount with a publisher for the corresponding electronic book.
12. The method of claim 10 wherein the providing step includes electronically communicating with a viewer for use in receiving requests to purchase the electronic books.
13. The method of claim 10, further including charging a subscriber account for the purchases.
14. The method of claim 10, further including generating a bill to one of the subscribers for the purchases.

15. A method for providing on-line accounts for purchases of electronic books, comprising:

- storing identifications of a plurality of electronic books on a viewer;
- providing the electronic books for purchase by subscribers;
- maintaining on-line accounts for the subscribers;
- recording an indication of purchases of the electronic books in the corresponding accounts; and

permitting each of the subscribers to access a corresponding one of the on-line accounts for the subscriber.

16. The method of claim 15, further including providing on-line access to a customer service representative for the on-line accounts.

17. The method of claim 15 wherein the providing step includes electronically communicating with a viewer for use in receiving requests to purchase the electronic books.

18. The method of claim 15, further including charging one of the accounts for the purchases.

19. The method of claim 15, further including generating a bill to one of the subscribers for the purchases.

20. An apparatus for providing electronic books for purchase, comprising:

a billing and collection system for electronically communicating with a viewer for providing electronic books for purchase, wherein the billing and collection system executes a method comprising:

storing identifications of a plurality of electronic books for display on the viewer;  
associating each of the electronic books with a source;  
providing the electronic books for purchase by subscribers;  
recording an indication of purchases of the electronic books; and  
associating an amount of each purchase with the source for the corresponding electronic book.

21. The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the associating step includes associating the amount with a publisher for the corresponding electronic book.

22. The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the providing step includes electronically communicating with a portable viewer for use in receiving requests to purchase the electronic books.

23. The apparatus of claim 20, further including charging a subscriber account for the purchases.

24. The apparatus of claim 20, further including generating a bill to one of the subscribers for the purchases.

25. An apparatus for providing electronic books for purchase, comprising:  
a billing and collection system for electronically communicating with a viewer for providing electronic books for purchase, wherein the billing and collection system executes a method comprising:  
storing identifications of a plurality of electronic books for display on the viewer;  
providing the electronic books for purchase by subscribers;  
maintaining on-line accounts for the subscribers;  
recording an indication of purchases of the electronic books in the corresponding accounts; and  
permitting each of the subscribers to access a corresponding one of the on-line accounts for the subscriber.
26. The apparatus of claim 25, further including providing on-line access to a customer service representative for the on-line accounts.
27. The apparatus of claim 25 wherein the providing step includes electronically communicating with a portable viewer for use in receiving requests to purchase the electronic books.
28. The apparatus of claim 25, further including charging one of the accounts for the purchases.

Divisional of Appln. Serial No. 09/237,825

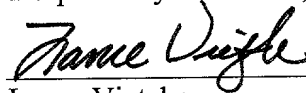
29. The apparatus of claim 25, further including generating a bill to one of the subscribers for the purchases.

#### REMARKS

Applicant files the present division to claim additional disclosed embodiments. Applicant has amended the title to reflect the inventions now claimed. Claims 10-29 are pending. Consideration and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully requested.

9/28/01  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Respectfully submitted,



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Divisional of Appln. Serial No. 09/237,825

**Marked-Up Copy of Specification Amendments**

The text on page 1, lines 3-6, is changed as follows:

[This application is divisional of application Serial Number 08/336,247, filed November 7, 1994, which is a continuation-in-part of Application Serial Number 08/160,194, entitled ADVANCED SET-TOP TERMINAL FOR CABLE TELEVISION DELIVERY SYSTEMS, filed December 9, 1993.]

This application is a division of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/237,825, filed January 27, 1999, which is a division of Serial No. 08/336,247, filed November 7, 1994, now U.S. Patent No. 5,986,690, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application Serial No. 08/160,194, filed December 9, 1993, all of which are incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth.

**Clean Copy of Pending Claims**

10. A method for tracking purchases of electronic books, comprising:
- storing identifications of a plurality of electronic books for display on a viewer;
  - associating each of the electronic books with a source;
  - providing the electronic books for purchase by subscribers;
  - recording an indication of purchases of the electronic books; and
  - associating an amount of each purchase with the source for the corresponding electronic book.
11. The method of claim 10 wherein the associating step includes associating the amount with a publisher for the corresponding electronic book.
12. The method of claim 10 wherein the providing step includes electronically communicating with a viewer for use in receiving requests to purchase the electronic books.
13. The method of claim 10, further including charging a subscriber account for the purchases.
14. The method of claim 10, further including generating a bill to one of the subscribers for the purchases.
15. A method for providing on-line accounts for purchases of electronic books, comprising:
- storing identifications of a plurality of electronic books on a viewer;



providing the electronic books for purchase by subscribers;  
maintaining on-line accounts for the subscribers;  
recording an indication of purchases of the electronic books in the corresponding  
accounts; and  
permitting each of the subscribers to access a corresponding one of the on-line accounts  
for the subscriber.

16. The method of claim 15, further including providing on-line access to a customer service  
representative for the on-line accounts.

17. The method of claim 15 wherein the providing step includes electronically  
communicating with a viewer for use in receiving requests to purchase the electronic books.

18. The method of claim 15, further including charging one of the accounts for the purchases.

19. The method of claim 15, further including generating a bill to one of the subscribers for  
the purchases.

20. An apparatus for providing electronic books for purchase, comprising:  
a billing and collection system for electronically communicating with a viewer for  
providing electronic books for purchase, wherein the billing and collection system executes a  
method comprising:

storing identifications of a plurality of electronic books for display on the viewer;  
associating each of the electronic books with a source;  
providing the electronic books for purchase by subscribers;  
recording an indication of purchases of the electronic books; and  
associating an amount of each purchase with the source for the corresponding electronic book.

21. The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the associating step includes associating the amount with a publisher for the corresponding electronic book.

22. The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the providing step includes electronically communicating with a portable viewer for use in receiving requests to purchase the electronic books.

23. The apparatus of claim 20, further including charging a subscriber account for the purchases.

24. The apparatus of claim 20, further including generating a bill to one of the subscribers for the purchases.

25. An apparatus for providing electronic books for purchase, comprising:

a billing and collection system for electronically communicating with a viewer for providing electronic books for purchase, wherein the billing and collection system executes a method comprising:

storing identifications of a plurality of electronic books for display on the viewer;

providing the electronic books for purchase by subscribers;

maintaining on-line accounts for the subscribers;

recording an indication of purchases of the electronic books in the corresponding accounts; and

permitting each of the subscribers to access a corresponding one of the on-line accounts for the subscriber.

26. The apparatus of claim 25, further including providing on-line access to a customer service representative for the on-line accounts.

27. The apparatus of claim 25 wherein the providing step includes electronically communicating with a portable viewer for use in receiving requests to purchase the electronic books.

28. The apparatus of claim 25, further including charging one of the accounts for the purchases.

Divisional of Appln. Serial No. 09/237,825

29. The apparatus of claim 25, further including generating a bill to one of the subscribers for the purchases.

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